

TAOS, N. Mex., July 19, 1968.

HON. CLINTON P. ANDERSON,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I am writing about the Blue Lake Bill which the House passed. In it the United States would give the Taos Indians 50,000 acres of Carson National Forest land. If we do this, what will stop them from asking and getting more? Now the Forest Service manages the land to the best advantage for everyone concerned. They are trained in how to manage forest land. If the land was given back to the Taos Indians, would they know how to manage the land? More than likely the land would just go to ruin from lack of proper management.

Most people in Northern New Mexico do not want the land to go back to the Indians. If the Indians do get this land, then the other tribes should be entitled to some land also and soon the whole United States would belong to the Indians like it when it was first settled.

Sincerely Yours,

JOANN BEASLEY.

JOHN WANAMAKER PHILADELPHIA, INC.

July 15, 1968.

HON. FRANK CHURCH,
New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

MY DEAR SENATOR CHURCH: I am writing to you to enlist your support of H.R. 3306 which recently received unanimous approval in the House of Representatives.

The Taos Indians have displayed amazing forbearance and patriotism for many years while they vainly sought federal action restoring to them unencumbered title to their ancient lands and exclusive use of these lands as a matter of freedom of worship and aboriginal right.

Their claim to this land is legal and should be approved on that ground alone. But to the Taos Indians these lands hold far greater meaning. They hold these lands as a sacred and integral part of their religion and they do not intend to exploit their ancestral land for any financial profits to themselves.

In a spirit of justice and understanding, I hope you will give your full support to this measure when it is considered by the U.S. Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Subcommittee on Indian Affairs.

Sincerely,

JOHN R. WANAMAKER.

B. J. SHOLER,

Albuquerque, N. Mex., July 19, 1968.

Re Senate bill 3085.

SENATOR CLINTON P. ANDERSON,
U.S. Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR ANDERSON: Just a short note to inform you that I am in accord with your amendment on the Blue Lake matter of the Carson National Forest, to give the Taos Pueblo Indians a smaller amount of land adjacent to the Blue Lake rather than the entire acreage which has been asked.

You have my support in your fight for the amendment.

Yours truly,

B. J. SHOLER.

TOLEDO, OHIO, September 14, 1968.

Senator GEORGE MCGOVERN,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR MCGOVERN: In response to a request from the Taos Pueblo Council, I write in full support of H.R. 3306, the Blue Lake bill which passed the House last June.

I own 62 acres of sagebrush land west of the town of Taos, but it adjoins Indian land. My wife and I love this land, and we hope one day to live there, at least some of the time.

There can be no doubt but that the Taos Indians should have their Blue Lake watershed and its vast, magnificent lands returned for their perpetual use.

Best wishes,

RICHARD PHEATT.